

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CHAFIK HASSANE,

18cv11827 (JGK)

Plaintiff,

- against -

MEMORANDUM OPINION
AND ORDER

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTION et al.,

Defendants.

JOHN G. KOELTL, District Judge:

The plaintiff's application to appoint counsel is **denied** **without prejudice** for failure to make the required showing. The Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit has articulated factors that should guide the Court's discretion to appoint counsel to represent an indigent civil litigant under 28 U.S.C. § 1915.

See Hodge v. Police Officers, 802 F.2d 58, 61-62 (2d Cir. 1986); SEC v. Penn, No. 14-cv-0581, 2017 WL 5508779, at *1-*2 (S.D.N.Y. Jan 24, 2017). For the Court to order the appointment of counsel, the plaintiff must, as a threshold matter, demonstrate that the claim has substance or a likelihood of success on the merits. See Hodge, 802 F.2d at 60-61. Only then can the Court consider the other factors appropriate to determination of whether counsel should be appointed: "plaintiff's ability to obtain representation independently, and his ability to handle the case without assistance in the light of the required factual

investigation, the complexity of the legal issues, and the need for expertly conducted cross-examination to test veracity."

Cooper v. A. Sargent Co., Inc., 877 F.2d 170, 172 (2d Cir. 1989). The plaintiff has not made such a showing in this case. The plaintiff's application for the Court to appoint counsel is therefore **denied without prejudice** for failure to make the required showing at this time. The Clerk is directed to **close Docket No. 23.**

SO ORDERED.

**Dated: New York, New York
November 5, 2019**

/s/
John G. Koeltl
United States District Judge